

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 1295, Trade Preferences Extension Act, as amended.

Senate passed H.R. 644, Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2897–S2948.

Measures Introduced: Twenty-two bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1338–1359, and S. Res. 179. **Page S2933**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 460, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to train Department of Homeland Security personnel how to effectively deter, detect, disrupt, and prevent human trafficking during the course of their primary roles and responsibilities. (S. Rept. No. 114–46) **Page S2933**

Measures Passed:

Trade Preferences Extension Act: By 97 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 178), Senate passed H.R. 1295, to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Generalized System of Preferences, the preferential duty treatment program for Haiti, by the order of the Senate of Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, and after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S2907**

Adopted:

Hatch Amendment No. 1223, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2899**

Hatch Amendment No. 1240, to amend the title. **Page S2946**

Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act: By 78 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. 179), Senate passed H.R. 644, to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities, by the order of the Senate of Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, and after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S2907–08**

Adopted:

Hatch Amendment No. 1224, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2899**

Hatch Amendment No. 1241, to amend the title. **Page S2946**

Don't Tax Our Fallen Public Safety Heroes Act: Senate passed H.R. 606, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain compensation received by public safety officers and their dependents from gross income. **Pages S2913–14**

Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act: Senate passed S. 1356, to clarify that certain provisions of the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014 will not take effect until after the Director of the Office of Personnel Management promulgates and makes effective regulations relating to such provisions. **Page S2933**

Kids to Parks Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 179, designating May 16, 2015, as “Kids to Parks Day”. **Pages S2946–47**

Measures Considered:

Ensuring Tax Exempt Organizations the Right to Appeal Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2926–27, S2947**

Pending:

Hatch Amendment No. 1221, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2926**

Hatch (for Flake) Amendment No. 1243 (to Amendment No. 1221), to strike the extension of the trade adjustment assistance program. **Page S2926**

Hatch (for Lankford) Amendment No. 1237 (to Amendment No. 1221), to establish consideration of

the conditions relating to religious freedom of parties to trade negotiations as an overall negotiating objective of the United States. **Page S2926**

Brown Amendment No. 1242 (to Amendment No. 1221), to restore funding for the trade adjustment assistance program to the level established by the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011. **Page S2926**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, May 13, 2015, the motion to proceed to the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, was agreed to. **Page S2908**

Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, May 13, 2015, the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, was agreed to. **Page S2912**

By 65 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. 180), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate, upon reconsideration, agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S2912–13**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that when Senate resumes consideration of the bill on Monday, May 15, 2015, the time until 5:30 p.m., be equally divided between the managers, or their designees, and that at 5:30 p.m., Senate vote on or in relation to Brown Amendment No. 1242 (to Amendment No. 1221) (listed above) and Hatch (for Lankford) Amendment No. 1237 (to Amendment No. 1221) (listed above) in that order, with no second-degree amendments in order prior to the votes, and a 60 affirmative vote threshold for adoption. **Page S2926**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 3 p.m., on Monday, May 18, 2015, Senate resume consideration of the bill. **Page S2947**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Leslie E. Bains, of New York, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2015.

Leslie E. Bains, of New York, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2018.

Juan Carlos Iturregui, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring June 26, 2020.

Karl Boyd Brooks, of Kansas, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Laura Farnsworth Dogu, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Nicaragua.

John L. Estrada, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Samuel D. Heins, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway.

Thomas O. Melia, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

37 Army nominations in the rank of general.

5 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army and Navy.

Pages S2947–48

Messages from the House:

Page S2932

Measures Read the First Time:

Pages S2932–33, S2947

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Page S2933

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S2933–35

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S2935–37

Additional Statements:

Pages S2931–32

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S2937–46

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S2946

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—180) **Pages S2907–08, S2913**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:01 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, May 18, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2947.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

END-USERS AND MARKET LIQUIDITY

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine regulatory issues impacting end-users and market liquidity, after receiving testimony from Timothy G. Massad, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; Terrence A. Duffy, CME Group Inc., Chicago, Illinois; Bruce Barber, ADM, Forsyth, Illinois, on behalf of Commodity Markets Council; Jeffrey L. Walker, Alliance for Cooperative Energy Services Power Marketing LLC, Carmel, Indiana; Michael D. Bopp, Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher LLP, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Coalition for Derivatives End-Users; and Sean O. Cota, Commodity Markets Oversight Coalition, Bellows Falls, Vermont.

APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the National Labor Relations Board, after receiving testimony from Mark Pearce, Chairman, and Richard Griffin, General Counsel, both of the National Labor Relations Board.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill entitled, “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016”.

ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 411, to authorize the approval of natural gas pipelines and establish deadlines and expedite permits for certain natural gas gathering lines on Federal land and Indian land, S. 485, to prohibit the use of eminent domain in carrying out certain projects, S. 1017, to amend the Federal Power Act to improve the siting of interstate electric transmission facilities, S. 1037, to expand the provisions for termination of mandatory purchase requirements under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, S. 1196, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to grant rights-of-ways on Federal land, S. 1201, to advance the integration of clean distributed energy into electric grids, S. 1202, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to assist States in adopting updated interconnection procedures and tariff schedules and standards for supplemental, backup, and standby power fees for projects for combined heat and power technology and waste heat to power technology, S. 1207, to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program under which the Secretary shall make grants to eligible partnerships to provide for the transformation of the electric grid by the year 2030, S. 1210, to provide for the timely consideration of all licenses, permits, and approvals required under Federal law with respect to oil and gas production and distribution, S. 1213, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 and the Federal Power Act to facilitate the free market for distributed energy resources, S. 1217, to establish an Interagency Rapid Response Team for Transmission, to establish an Office of Transmission Ombudsperson, S. 1219, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to provide for the safe and reliable interconnection of distributed resources and to provide for the examina-

tion of the effects of net metering, S. 1220, to improve the distribution of energy in the United States, S. 1225, to improve Federal land management, resource conservation, environmental protection, and use of Federal real property, by requiring the Secretary of the Interior to develop a multipurpose cadastre of Federal real property and identifying inaccurate, duplicate, and out-of-date Federal land inventories, S. 1227, to require the Secretary of Energy to develop an implementation strategy to promote the development of hybrid micro-grid systems for isolated communities, S. 1228, to require approval for the construction, connection, operation, or maintenance of oil or natural gas pipelines or electric transmission facilities at the national boundary of the United States for the import or export of oil, natural gas, or electricity to or from Canada or Mexico, S. 1231, to require congressional notification for certain Strategic Petroleum Reserve operations and to determine options available for the continued operation of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, S. 1232, to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to modify provisions relating to smart grid modernization, S. 1233, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to expand the electric rate-setting authority of States, S. 1237, to amend the Natural Gas Act to limit the authority of the Secretary of Energy to approve certain proposals relating to export activities of liquefied natural gas terminals, S. 1242, to amend the Natural Gas Act to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to consider regional constraints in natural gas supply and whether a proposed LNG terminal would benefit regional consumers of natural gas before approving or disapproving an application for the LNG terminal, and S. 1243, to facilitate modernizing the electric grid, after receiving testimony from Brian P. Kalk, North Dakota Public Service Commissioner, Bismarck; and Erica Bowman, America's Natural Gas Alliance, Jonathan M. Weisgall, Berkshire Hathaway Energy, Amy Ericson, Alstom Inc., Greg Dotson, Center for American Progress, and James L. Hunter, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Utility Department, all of Washington, D.C.

IMPROVING CARE FOR MEDICARE PATIENTS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine a pathway to improving care for Medicare patients with chronic conditions, after receiving testimony from Patrick Conway, Acting Principal Deputy Administrator, Deputy Administrator for Innovation and Quality, and Chief Medical Officer, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and Mark E.

Miller, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, Washington, D.C.

CYBERSECURITY

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy concluded a hearing to examine cybersecurity, focusing on setting the rules for responsible global cyber behavior, after receiving testimony from Christopher M. E. Painter, Coordinator for Cyber Issues, Department of State; James A. Lewis, Center for

Strategic and International Studies, Washington, D.C.; and Michael Greenberger, University of Maryland Center for Health and Homeland Security, Baltimore.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 32 public bills, H.R. 2315–2346; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 52–53; H. Con. Res. 45–46; and H. Res. 262–264, were introduced.

Pages H3211–13

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H3214–15

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Supplemental report on H.R. 1806, to provide for technological innovation through the prioritization of Federal investment in basic research, fundamental scientific discovery, and development to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–107, part 2);

H.R. 880, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify and make permanent the research credit, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–113); and

H.R. 1907, to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–114, Part 1).

Page H3211

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Holding to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H2961

Recess: The House recessed at 11:06 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H2968

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Byrne wherein he resigned from the Committee on Natural Resources.

Page H2972

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015: Concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 1191, to provide for congressional review and oversight of agreements relating to Iran's nuclear program, and

for other purposes, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nay vote of 400 yeas to 25 nays, Roll No. 226; and

Pages H2972–83, H2997–98

Hezbollah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015: H.R. 2297, to prevent Hezbollah and associated entities from gaining access to international financial and other institutions, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nay vote of 423 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 227.

Pages H2983–2989, H2998–99

Clarifying the effective date of certain provisions of the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass H.R. 2252, to clarify the effective date of certain provisions of the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014.

Page H2999

Recess: The House recessed at 7:21 p.m. and reconvened at 7:27 p.m.

Page H3181

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016: The House considered H.R. 1735, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, May 15.

Pages H2999–H3206

Agreed to:

Thornberry amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that makes technical, conforming, and clarifying changes in the bill;

Pages H3154–55

Thornberry en bloc amendment No. 1 consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 114–112: Young (AK) (No. 3) that expresses the Sense of Congress that Pacific Air Force's F–35A basing decision should be based on a base's capability to host fighter-based bilateral and multilateral training opportunities with international partners, have sufficient airspace and range capabilities to

meet training requirements, have sufficient existing facilities, have limited encroachment, and minimize overall construction and operational costs; Heck (NV) (No. 4) that authorizes an additional \$25,000,000 for the Office of Economic Adjustment to be available for transportation infrastructure improvements associated with congestion mitigation in urban areas related to recommendations of the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission; Messer (No. 6) that requires the Secretary of Defense, no earlier than 5 years after the date of enactment of this bill, to conduct a study on the impact of the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone regulation on military readiness; Takai (No. 7) that enhances the authority of service members to obtain professional certifications in the maritime trades; McGovern (No. 8) that requires the Secretary of Defense to design and produce a military service medal to honor retired and former members of the Armed Forces who are radiation-exposed veterans (Atomic Veterans), which are determined in section 1112(c)(3) of title 38, in the USC; Hanna (No. 9) that allows memorial headstone or grave markers to be made available for purchase by Guard or Reserve members who served for at least six years, at no cost to the government, and clarifies that this does not allow for any new veteran benefits, and does not authorize any new burial benefit or create any new authority for an individual to be buried in a national cemetery; Kline (No. 10) that provides a one-time election for certain military retirees to regain access to TRICARE Prime because the DOD unilaterally changed the eligibility criteria for retirees living more than 100 miles from a military treatment facility, and fully off-sets the cost of TRICARE Prime by reducing the program increase in MV-22 engineering support; Thornberry (No. 11) that limits the funds made available to the Department of Defense Healthcare Management System for Fiscal Year 2016 so that no more than 75 percent can be spent until the date on which the Secretary of Defense makes the certification required in the Fiscal Year 2014 NDAA; Pascrell (No. 12) that directs the peer-reviewed Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury Research Program to conduct a study on blast injury and its correlation to traumatic brain injury; Hurd (No. 13) that includes the entire federal government in the Independent Study of Matters Related to Bid Protests; Chabot (No. 14) that amends the Small Business Act to ensure that the Small Business Administration (SBA) negotiates agency prime contracting goals with a view towards encouraging participation by a wide variety of small businesses; requires that any SBA procurement scorecard assesses the use of small businesses as prime contrac-

tors and subcontractors, and looks at the small business participation rate; Perry (No. 18) that prohibits the use of funds for realignment of forces at or the closure of United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Hanna (No. 19) that requires the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to Congress that assesses the degree to which existing defense capabilities are able to detect, identify, and potentially disable remotely piloted aircraft within special use and restricted airspace; requires the Secretary to identify how existing research and development Department resources can be leveraged to strengthen our nation's ability to detect, identify, and disable unidentified or potentially malicious remotely piloted aircraft; Kline (No. 20) that expresses a sense of Congress that U.S. military forces should have the proper resources at all times during an ordered evacuation of an embassy abroad and that no restrictions should be placed on the ability of our military to maintain and use weapons and equipment to protect themselves and evacuees during an ordered embassy evacuation; Engel (No. 25) that requires a report to assess the effectiveness and operational requirements of establishing a no-fly zone in Syria; Connolly (No. 29) that prohibits the authorization of funds to implement any action that recognizes Russian sovereignty over Crimea or provide assistance to the central governments of countries that support the illegal annexation of Crimea; provides a national interest waiver for the prohibition on assistance to central governments supportive of the illegal annexation of Crimea; Davis (CA) (No. 36) that provides an exception to the regulations governing minor military construction in the case of military child care facilities; authorization would sunset three years following enactment; Scalise (No. 76) that exempts Ability One products from the Afghan First, Central Asian States, and Djibouti procurement program; and Engel (No. 94) that ensures a focus on the protection of human rights will be maintained as part of U.S. efforts to train Afghan National Security Forces;

Pages H3156–60

Hunter amendment (No. 21 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that establishes an Interagency Hostage Recovery Coordinator to direct hostage rescue efforts;

Pages H3170–72

Thornberry en bloc amendment No. 2 consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 114–112: Stivers (No. 22) that permits participation in a pilot program for DoD and FAA to jointly award competitive grants to airports that support both civilian and military operations for tower or other infrastructure improvements; Thornberry (No. 24) that requires the Secretary of Defense to submit reprogrammings to be able to use funds from the Syria Train and Equip Fund to execute the Syria

Train and Equip program; requires the SECDEF to submit a comprehensive strategy for Syria and Iraq (and an update with the reprogramming requests), and requires the SECDEF to submit a certification on support provided to the trained Syria opposition; Lamborn (No. 26) that adds language to the underlying Iran Sense of Congress regarding the sale of S-300's and the importance of terrorism related sanctions; Turner (No. 28) that limits the availability of any funds, authorized through this act, which may be used to facilitate the United States & Russia's conduct of bilateral military-to-military engagement until the Secretary of Defense certifies certain criteria; Rogers (AL) (No. 30) that expresses a sense of Congress on opportunities to enhance the United States Alliance with the Republic of Korea; Ros-Lehtinen (No. 31) that authorizes the Secretary of Defense to deploy assets, personnel and resources to SOUTHCOM, in coordination with the Joint Interagency Task Force South, to combat transnational criminal organization, drug trafficking, bulk shipments of narcotics or currency, narco-terrorism, human trafficking and the Iranian presence in SOUTHCOM's AOR; Mulvaney (No. 33) that instructs the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on how funds authorized for overseas contingency operations were ultimately used; Walker (No. 34) that provides that defense contractor information concerning breaches can be shared with DOD and disseminated for additional purposes including cybersecurity, national security, and law enforcement; Sherman (No. 40) that adds two certifications to section 3119 of the NDAA, which concerns the transfer of nuclear technology to foreign countries, regarding (1) the recipient country's compliance with its agreement for nuclear cooperation with the US; and (2) its efforts to prevent transfers of sensitive items to countries of proliferation concern; provides further that any arrangement granting a country permission to reprocess U.S. origin spent fuel be submitted to Congress; Jackson Lee (No. 43) that provides guidance to the Secretary of Defense on identifying HBCUs and minority serving institutions to assist them in developing scientific, technical, engineering, and mathematics capabilities; Aguilar (No. 47) that requests a report, from the Secretary of Defense, outlining the number of racial or ethnic minority groups, women, and disabled persons that have participated in the DOD's National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship; the barriers that have been found in recruiting participants from these groups; and a set of policy recommendations focused on increasing these groups participation; Clark (MA) (No. 48) that expresses the Sense of Congress that the quality of America's future STEM workforce is a matter of national security

concern, that Federally Funded Research and Development Centers employ a highly skilled workforce that is qualified to support STEM initiatives, and that the Department of Defense should explore its existing authority to permit these Centers to help facilitate and shape a high-quality future STEM workforce capable of supporting Department of Defense needs; Veasey (No. 49) that increases authorization amount for digital up-grades, Research and Development for the V-22 Osprey by \$75,000,000, offset by a identical reduction for Navy spares and repair parts; and Peters (No. 50) that asks DOD to report on the merger between the Office of Assistant Secretary for Operational Energy Plans and Deputy Under Secretary for Installations and Environment;

Pages H3172–77

Brooks (AL) amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that strikes section 538, relating to a sense of the House of Representatives regarding Secretary of Defense review of section 504 of title 10, United States Code, regarding enlisting certain aliens in the Armed Forces (by a recorded vote of 221 ayes to 202 noes, Roll No. 229);

Pages H3163–64, H3178–79

Walorski amendment (No. 15 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that extends and strengthens provisions related to detainees at Guantanamo Bay (by a recorded vote of 243 ayes to 180 noes, Roll No. 230);

Pages H3164–66, H3179

McCaul amendment (No. 17 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that amends 10 USC 2576a to include border security activities to the list of preferred applications the Department of Defense considers when transferring excess property to other federal agencies;

Pages H3169–70, H3180–81

Lummis amendment (No. 35 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that prohibits reducing the alert posture of the ICBM force;

Pages H3185–87

Thornberry en bloc amendment No. 3 consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 114–112: Hardy (No. 37) that ensures that national monument designations under the Antiquities Act will not endanger our national security; guarantees our men and women in uniform access to land located beneath or associated with a Military Operations Area (MOA) for vital training and readiness activities; Zinke (No. 39) that renames the Captain William Wylie Galt Great Falls Armed Forces Readiness Center in Honor of Captain John E. Moran, a Recipient of the Medal of Honor; Costello (No. 42) that expresses a sense of Congress in support of providing the necessary funding levels for the Army to meet its tactical wheeled vehicle protection kits acquisition objectives; Collins (NY) (No. 44) that requires a report to Congress from the Secretary of the

Army detailing market survey findings and flight assessment of commercial-off-the-market wide-area surveillance sensors for Army unmanned vehicles; Hunter (No. 45) that requires a report on Tactical Combat Training System Increment II; Palazzo (No. 46) that clarifies and improves language to foster coordination and communication of defense research activities to provide open data to other entities that were previously not included in the law; Farenthold (No. 51) that ; encourages the Department of Defense to enter into contracts with third party vendors to provide free access to wireless high-speed internet to all members of the Armed Forces who are deployed overseas at any United States military facility; Loeb sack (No. 53) that amends 10 USC Chapter 434 Section 4554(a)(3)(A) to authorize the inclusion of an option period of up to 25 years, in addition to the current 25 year term limitation, for a combined maximum term of 50 years; Fleming (No. 54) that requires a report and certification by the Secretary of Defense that an Army active duty end strength below 490,000 soldiers will be adequate to meet the U.S. national military strategy; McKinley (No. 55) that requires the Secretary of Defense to establish an electronic tour calculator so that reservists could keep track of aggregated active duty tours of 90 days or more served within a fiscal year; Crowley (No. 56) that Honors those from diverse backgrounds who have made sacrifices as members of the Armed Services; Takano (No. 57) that includes in the report to Congress on the direct employment pilot program for members of the National Guard and Reserve (Sec. 567) a comparison of the pilot program to other DOD and VA unemployment and underemployment programs; Israel (No. 59) that requires a report on civilian and military education requirements that are necessary to meet anticipated threats in the future security environment as described in the Quadrennial Defense Review; Keating (No. 63) that expresses the Sense of Congress in support of fully implementing a service-wide expansion of the Army's Gold Star Installation Access Card; provides entry to military installations for events and memorials for the survivors of members of the Armed Forces who have died while serving on certain active or reserve duty; Meng (No. 64) that requires a VA Regional Office (VARO) to carry out certain steps if it does not adjudicate claims within 125 days with a 98% accuracy; requires the Under Secretary for Benefits to explain how the failure of the regional office to meet the goal affected the performance evaluation of the director of the regional office; and Adams (No. 66) that recognizes the complexities of post-traumatic stress disorder among service members, its effect on children, and the need for current health programs to not only reduce a veteran's symp-

toms but to also allow them to reconnect with their families;

Pages H3187-91

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 52 printed in H. Rept. 114-112) that requires outreach for small business concerns owned and controlled by women and minorities before conversion of certain functions to contractor performance;

Pages H3194-95

Thornberry en bloc amendment No. 4 consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 114-112: Hurd (No. 58) that amends Title 10, U.S. Code on the payment of expenses to obtain professional credentials to authorize DOD and DHS to pay for both the training and exams needed to obtain IT and cybersecurity credentials for all personnel identified as critical to network defense; Stivers (No. 60) that restores the commission to Captain of Medal of Honor recipient Milton Holland; Moore (No. 61) that expresses the Sense of the Congress regarding the Posthumous promotion granted to Master Sergeant (retired) Naomi Horwitz; Austin Scott (GA) (No. 65) that ensures that the network of preferred retail pharmacies for TRICARE established under Sec. 714 allows for sufficient small business participation; Grayson (No. 67) that makes permanent the requirement that DOD, for dependents of members of the military stationed in remote locations outside the United States, provide transportation to persons requiring "obstetrical anesthesia services for childbirth that is equivalent to the obstetrical anesthesia services for childbirth available in a military treatment facility."; Austin Scott (GA) (No. 68) that ensures that sustainment needs are sufficiently considered by clarifying that Sec. 804 of the bill regarding the process for commercial item determinations does not conflict with existing Title 10 requirements for core logistics capabilities; Cole (No. 69) that ensures that sustainment requirements are considered and that the Centers of Industrial and Technical Excellence (CITES) are consulted, when DOD conducts a DOD Board Study related to the intellectual property rights of private sector firms; Foxx (No. 70) that amends the report required by Sec. 835 to include information on DoD practices regarding intellectual rights to facilitate competition in sustainment of weapons systems throughout their life-cycles; Bost (No. 71) that amends the Small Business Act to codify an independent Office of Hearings and Appeals; Hanna (No. 72) that requires training of contracting officers, and provides a definition of reverse auction; Jackson Lee (No. 75) that ensures that changes made to DOD computing systems using software bought and modified for agency use will not result in disruption of DOD operations; Connolly (No. 79) that ensures the Federal Acquisition Regulation clarifies that acquisition personnel

are permitted and encouraged to engage in responsible and constructive communication with industry; Connolly (No. 80) that requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, to develop a plan to improve the management of information technology programs and projects; Farr (No. 81) that requires DAU to annually convene a board of faculty representatives from relevant professional schools and DOD degree granting institutions to review and synchronize defense acquisition curricula across all of DOD; and Farr (No. 82) that strengthens academic research and analysis of the defense acquisition decision support system from both a business, public policy, operation, and information sciences perspective;

Pages H3195–99

Thornberry en bloc amendment No. 5 consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 114–112: Thompson (PA) (No. 62) that provides an individual with a mental health screening at enlistment and uses the results as a baseline for any subsequent mental health examinations; prohibits the Secretary from considering the results of such screening in determining promotions and is respective of privacy information in the same manner as medical records; Russell (No. 73) that adds an additional exception from requirement to buy certain articles from American sources for use in the production of fire hoses; McGovern (No. 74) that maintains the simplified acquisition threshold at current level of \$150,000 applying to certain textile and clothing purchases by the Defense Department; Walker (No. 77) that requires the Secretary of Defense to assess the Open Trusted Technology Provider Standard for information technology and cyber security acquisitions and provide a briefing to Armed Service House of Representatives no later than one year of the enactment of this Act; Young (AK) (No. 78) that repeals section 811 of the FY2010 NDAA and removes the exemption in 10 USC 2304(e)(4) and 41 USC 3304(f)(2)(D)(ii) for contracts exceeding \$20,000,000 which are awarded pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Small Business Act. This will require that contracting agencies comply with the standard justification and approval process prior to sole sourcing these contracts; Palazzo (No. 84) that pushes back the authorized period for the transfer of certain AH–64 Apache Helicopters from Army National Guard to Regular Army from March 31, 2016 to June 30, 2016; Ellmers (No. 85) that prohibits funds from being used to deactivate the 440th Airlift Wing until the Secretary of Defense certifies that this movement will have no impact on Airborne and Special Operations units readiness; Katko (No. 86) that requires a report from the Secretary of the Air Force to the congressional defense committees ad-

ressing the immediate and critical training and operational needs of the remotely piloted aircraft community; Thornberry (No. 87) that excludes the application of Section 10 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act to meetings of the National Commission on the Future of the Army with less than five members present as a lessons learned from previous commission reports; Heck (NV) (No. 88) that requires a report after the Military Lending Act rule-making on compliance mechanisms for identifying covered borrowers and requires the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) to report to Congress on systems reliability and plans to strengthen capabilities, and consult with private-sector users of DMDC to address issues of common concern; Crawford (No. 89) that makes it clear that EOD incident response in support of civil authorities is authorized, and does not require reimbursement by civil authorities for EOD to pick up military ordnance that has escaped government control; DeFazio (No. 92) that expresses the Sense of Congress calling for a technical correction to Section 3095, Fiscal Year 2015 National Defense Authorization regarding refinancing of Pacific Coast groundfish fishing capacity reduction loan; Lynch (No. 93) that calls for the observation of two minutes of silence on Veterans Day in honor of the service and sacrifice of veterans throughout the history of the United States; Connolly (No. 95) that authorizes up to 5% of humanitarian assistance program funds to be used for monitoring and evaluation of said programs; requires a Congressional briefing 90 days after enactment describing how the Department evaluates program and project outcomes and impact, including cost effectiveness and whether the programs met their goals; Cicilline (No. 97) that requires the Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense to submit a report within 180 days describing efforts to engage United States manufacturers in procurement opportunities related to equipping the ANSF; Sinema (No. 98) that directs the Secretary of Defense in coordination with the Secretary of State to pursue efforts to shut down ISIL's illicit oil revenues and to report on resources need to counter ISIL's oil revenues; Blumenauer (No. 100) that ensures that our Afghan allies are not made ineligible for the Special Immigrant Visa program as a result of the change in mission name from ISAF to Resolute Support, and other technical change; and

Pages H3199–H3206

Burgess amendment (No. 83 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that requires a report ranking all military departments and Defense Agencies in order of how advanced they are in achieving auditable financial statements as required by law.

Pages H3205–06

Rejected:

Polis amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that sought to reduce from 11 to 10 the statutory requirement for the number of operational carriers that the U.S. Navy must have (by a recorded vote of 60 ayes to 363 noes, Roll No. 228); and

Pages H3177–78

Smith (WA) amendment (No. 16 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that sought to provide a framework for closure of the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, by December 31, 2017 (by a recorded vote of 174 ayes to 229 noes, Roll No. 231).

Pages H3179–80

Proceedings Postponed:

Rohrabacher amendment (No. 23 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that seeks to acknowledge Dr. Afridi's instrumental role in identifying the hiding place of Osama bin Laden and further state that it is the Sense of Congress that Dr. Shakil Afridi is an international hero and that the Government of Pakistan should release him immediately from prison;

Pages H3181–82

Lamborn amendment (No. 27 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that seeks to limit funding for implementing the New START treaty;

Pages H3182–84

Blumenauer amendment (No. 32 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that seeks to require funding for the Navy's new Ohio-class replacement submarines to come from their traditional Navy accounts, instead of the Sea-Based Deterrent Fund; transfer funds from the Sea-Based Deterrent Fund back into their historic Navy budget lines;

Pages H3184–87

Lucas amendment (No. 38 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that seeks to reverse and prohibit the further listing of the Lesser Prairie Chicken as a threatened or endangered species until 2021, thereby allowing the states to implement their voluntary Range-Wide Conservation Plan for the Lesser Prairie Chicken's habitat; delists the American Burying Beetle as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act; and

Pages H3191–92

Nadler amendment (No. 41 printed in H. Rept. 114–112) that seeks to strike section 3121, which places limits on funding for dismantlement of nuclear weapons.

Pages H3192–94

H. Res. 260, the rule providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1735) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 243 yeas to 181 nays, Roll No. 225.

Pages H2989–97

Recess: The House recessed at 9:28 p.m. and reconvened at 9:35 p.m.

Page H3206

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today and messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H2972, H2999, H3181.

Senate Referrals: S. Con. Res. 10 and S. 1356 were held at the desk.

Pages H2972, H3181

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2997, H2998, H2998–2999, H3177–78, 3178–79, 3179, 3179–80, and 3180–81. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a markup on a bill to reauthorize the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. The bill to reauthorize the Commodity Futures Trading Commission was ordered reported, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a markup on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2016. The Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2016 was forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

EXAMINING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S MISMANAGEMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN SCHOOLS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Examining the Federal Government's Mismanagement of Native American Schools". Testimony was heard from Charles M. Roessel, Director, Bureau of Indian Education, Department of Interior; and William Mendoza, Executive Director, White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education, Department of Education.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a markup on the "21st Century Cures Act"; and H.R. 1321, the "Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015". The "21st Century Cures Act" was forwarded to the full committee, as amended. H.R. 1321 was forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a markup on the "TSCA Modernization Act of 2015". The "TSCA Modernization Act of 2015" was forwarded to the full committee, as amended.

PROTECTING CONSUMERS: FINANCIAL DATA SECURITY IN THE AGE OF COMPUTER HACKERS

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Protecting Consumers: Financial Data Security in the Age of Computer Hackers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TILA-RESPA INTEGRATED DISCLOSURE: EXAMINING THE COSTS AND BENEFITS OF CHANGES TO THE REAL ESTATE SETTLEMENT PROCESS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance held a hearing entitled “TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosure: Examining the Costs and Benefits of Changes to the Real Estate Settlement Process”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ADVANCING U.S. ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN ASIA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Advancing U.S. Economic Interests in Asia”. Testimony was heard from Daniel R. Russel, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State; and Charles H. Rivkin, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, Department of State.

ENERGY REVOLUTION IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE U.S.

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a hearing entitled “Energy Revolution in the Western Hemisphere: Opportunities and Challenges for the U.S.”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; A PATHWAY TO FREEDOM: RESCUE AND REFUGE FOR SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a markup on H.R. 2140, to promote freedom, human rights, and the rule of law as part of United States-Vietnam relations; and H. Res. 213, condemning the April 2015 terrorist attack at the Garissa University College in Garissa, Kenya, and reaffirming the United States support for the people and Government of Kenya, and for other purposes; and a hearing entitled “A Pathway to Freedom: Rescue and Refuge for Sex Trafficking Victims”. H.R. 2140 and H. Res. 213 were both forwarded to the full committee, without amendment. Testimony was heard from Sean Reyes, Attorney General, State of Utah; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a markup on H.R. 1300, the “First Responder Anthrax Preparedness Act”; H.R. 2200, the “CBRN Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2015”; and H.R. 2206, the “State Wide Interoperable Communications Enhancement Act”. H.R. 1300 and H.R. 2200 were reported to the full committee, as amended. H.R. 2206 was reported to the full committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 758, the “Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act (LARA) of 2015”; H.R. 526, the “Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency (FACT) Act of 2015”; and H. Con. Res. 13, expressing the sense of Congress that the radical Islamic movement in Afghanistan known as the Taliban should be recognized officially as a foreign terrorist organization by the United States Government. The following legislation was ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 758, H.R. 526, and H. Con. Res. 13.

LITIGATION AND INCREASED PLANNING'S IMPACT ON OUR NATION'S OVERGROWN, FIRE-PRONE NATIONAL FORESTS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing entitled “Litigation and Increased Planning's Impact on Our Nation's Overgrown, Fire-Prone National Forests”. Testimony was heard from Randy Hanvelt, Supervisor, District 2, Tuolumne County, California; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H.R. 1644, the “Supporting Transparent Regulatory and Environmental Actions in Mining Act”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

INADEQUATE STANDARDS FOR TRUST LAND ACQUISITION IN THE INDIAN REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1934

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing entitled “Inadequate Standards for Trust Land Acquisition in the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934”. Testimony was heard from Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary of Interior, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

U.S. SECRET SERVICE: ACCOUNTABILITY FOR MARCH 4, 2015 MISCONDUCT

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “U.S. Secret Service: Accountability for March 4, 2015 Misconduct”. Testimony was heard from John Roth, Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security.

COAST GUARD MAJOR ACQUISITIONS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled “Coast Guard Major Acquisitions”. Testimony was heard from Rear Admiral Baffer, Assistant Commandant for Acquisitions, Coast Guard; Michele Mackin, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; and a public witness.

WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE IN VA'S PURCHASE CARD PROGRAM

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in VA's Purchase Card Program”. Testimony was heard from Edward J. Murray, Acting Assistant Secretary for Management and Interim Chief Financial Officer, Office of Management, Department of Veterans Affairs; and Linda A. Halliday, Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a markup on H.R. 675, the “Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2015”; H.R. 677, the “American Heroes COLA Act of 2015”; H.R. 732, the “Veterans Access to Speedy Review Act”; H.R. 1067, the “U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Reform Act”; H.R. 1331, the “Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery Act of 2015”; H.R. 1414, the “Pay As You Rate Act”; H.R. 1569, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify that the estate of a deceased veteran may receive certain accrued benefits upon the death of the veteran, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1607, the “Ruth Moore Act of 2015”. The following bills were forwarded to the full committee, as amended: H.R. 1067, H.R. 1414, H.R. 732, and H.R. 1607. The following bills were forwarded to the full committee, without amendment: H.R. 675, H.R. 677, H.R. 1331, and H.R. 1569.

Joint Meetings

BUSINESS MEETING

Joint Committee on the Library: Committee announced designation of Chairman and Vice Chairman, and adopted its rules of procedure for the 114th Congress.

BUSINESS MEETING

Joint Committee on Printing: Committee announced designation of Chairman and Vice Chairman, and adopted its rules of procedure for the 114th Congress.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, hearing entitled “Update on the Current State of Nuclear Waste Management Policy”, 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “FCC Reauthorization: Improving Commission Transparency Part II”, 9:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing entitled “Oversight of the Antitrust Enforcement Agencies”, 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, markup on H.R. 271, the “COVER Act”; H.R. 627, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the definition of homeless veteran for purposes of benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 1575, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the pilot program on counseling in retreat settings for women veterans newly separated from service in the Armed Forces; H.R. 1769, the “Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015”; H.R. 2256, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit an annual report on the Veterans Health Administration and the furnishing of hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and H.R. 2257, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the reproductive treatment provided to certain disabled veterans; hearing entitled “Overcoming Barriers to More Efficient and Effective VA Staffing”, 9:45 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, May 18

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, May 15

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 3 p.m.), Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 1314, Ensuring Tax Exempt Organizations the Right to Appeal Act. At 5:30 p.m., Senate will vote on or in relation to Brown Amendment No. 1242 (to Amendment No. 1221) to the bill and Hatch (for Lankford) Amendment No. 1237 (to Amendment No. 1221) to the bill.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Complete consideration of H.R. 1735—National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016.

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